

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 00688 281331Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAJ-01 /074 W
-----290228Z 087580 /70

R 281259Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 633
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION GENEVA
USNATO 1849

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, CSCE, CS, AU
SUBJECT: KREISKY DENOUNCES POSSIBLE EXPATRIATION OF CHARTER 77
SIGNERS; STROUGAL VISIT TO AUSTRIA POSTPONED

REFS: (A) VIENNA 0626, B) VIENNA 0505, C) STATE 018234

1. FOLLOWING PAVEL KOHOUT'S APPEAL TO WESTERN POLITICAL

LEADERS FOR ACTION THAT WOULD HELP CHARTER 77 SIGNERS REMAIN
IN CSSR, CHANCELLOR KREISKY IN TV INTERVIEW JANUARY 27 CLARIFIED
AUSTRIAN OFFER OF ASYLUM (REFS A AND B) AND SAID THREATENED
FORCIBLE EXPATRIATION WOULD VIOLATE HELSINKI FINAL ACT.
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AUSTRIAN MEDIA CONTINUE TO GIVE PROMINENT
PLAY TO CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATES IN EE AND SOVIET
UNION AND HAS CARRIED KEY PASSAGES OF DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENTS
ON CHARTER 77 SIGNERS AND SAKHAROV. KREISKY WILL
PROBABLY AVOID FORMAL GOA STATEMENT THAT MIGHT LESSEN
CHANCES OF CHARTER SIGNERS TO REMAIN IN CSSR.

2. KREISKY CONFIRMED IN TV INTERVIEW THAT AUSTRIA WOULD GLADLY GRANT ASYLUM TO THREATENED PERSONS IN CSSR BUT STRESSED THAT "THIS MEANS IF THEY SO DESIRE".
"A METHOD BY WHICH UNPOPULAR CITIZENS WHO POSSIBLY GIVE RISE TO PROBLEMS ARE, SO TO SPEAK, DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT TO THEIR HOMELAND." HE CONTINUED, "SO UNAMBIGUOUSLY CONFLICTS WITH THE CHARTER WE SIGNED IN HELSINKI THAT WE WOULD BE COMPELLED TO PROTEST MOST RESOLUTELY AGAINST SUCH AN ATTEMPT".

3. ELABORATING ON CSCE ASPECT, KREISKY REPEATED THAT HE REGARDED "FORCIBLE EXPLUSION OF CHARTER 77 SIGNERS OR OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK'S AS BLATANTLY CONFLICTING WITH THE SPIRIT OF HELSINKI", AND HE SAID THAT "EVERY GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING SUCH THINGS MUST THINK OF WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE POLICY OF DETENTE, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT WAS BASKET III THAT CAUSED THE GREATEST DIFFICULTIES...AND THE SUCCESS OF THIS DETENTE POLICY WILL BE MEASURED AGAINST BASKET III". KREISKY ADDED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO MAKE FORECASTS ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF CSSR ACTIONS FOR AUSTRIAN ATTITUDES AT BELGRADE CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE BUT THEN WARNED THAT "AS FAR AS I UNDERSTAND THE MOOD IN THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC STATES, THIS WOULD OF NECESSITY LEAD TO A REAL DANGER FOR THE CONFERENCE BECAUSE THE WORLD CANNOT ACCEPT SUCH METHODS".

4. KREISKY REXPONDED EQUIVOCALLY TO FINAL QUESTION ABOUT CSSR ACTIONS POSSIBLY IMPERILING VISIT TO AUSTRIA OF CSSR PM STROUGAL SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MARCH 7. MFA
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SOURCES HAVE TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT VISIT HAS ALREADY BEEN POSTPONED AT CSSR INITIATIVE. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977016/aaaaafah.tel
Line Count: 99
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Litigation History:
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